

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUALA 05245 100515Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /020 W
-----063459 100525Z /15

R 090915Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8460
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
COMSEVENTH FLT
CNO WASHDC
CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 5245

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: OCLR, MILI, PDIP, PGOV, MY
SUBJECT: PROPOSED COMSEVENTHFLT VISIT

REF: COMSEVENTH FLT 050454Z AUG 77

1. ON JULY 16 COMSEVENTHFLT REQUESTED THAT USDAO KUALA LUMPUR OBTAIN DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE FOR VADM R.B. BALDWIN, COMSEVENTHFLT, TO VISIT MALAYSIA ABOARD HIS FLAGSHIP USS OKLAHOMA CITY (CG-5) FOR AN INFORMAL PORT VISIT TO PENANG SEPT. 3-7 (REFTEL, WHICH DAO IS REQUESTING BE REPEATED TO ADDRESSEES). ON JULY 21 THE EMBASSY REQUESTED CLEARANCE FOR THE SHIP VISIT IN A DIPLOMATIC NOTE. ACTING DCM ALSO DISCUSSED THE VISIT INFORMALLY WITH A WORKING-LEVEL MFA OFFICIAL WHO INDICATED AT THAT TIME THAT HE PERSONALLY ANTICIPATED NO REPEAT NO PROBLEM BUT THAT HIS OPINION WAS NOT DEFINITIVE. TO DATE WE HAVE NOT REPEAT NOT YET RECEIVED FORMAL APPROVAL FROM MFA ON THE PROPOSED VISIT. THE SAME OFFICIAL CONFIRMED TO US AUG. 8 THAT GOM DID NOT REPEAT NOT HAVE TIME TO FOCUS ON THIS BEFORE MFA AND OTHER AGENCIES BECAME ABSORBED IN ASEAN SUMMIT AND
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FOLLOW-ON HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS HERE. HE SAID THAT RELEVANT MFA MINISTRIES WOULD ONLY BE ABLE TO CONSIDER THE REQUEST FOLLOWING JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA'S DEPARTURE AUG. 10.

2. THE DATES OF THE PROPOSED VISIT FALL DURING THE MUSLIM FASTING MONTH (ROUGHLY AUG. 15-SEPT. 15), AND

MUSLIMS THEREFORE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN LUNCHEES AND OTHER SOCIAL FUNCTIONS ENVISAGED REFTTEL. CUSTOMARILY, THE GOM LIMITS TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE ITS OFFICIAL ACTIVITIES DURING THIS RELIGIOUSLY SIGNIFICANT PERIOD.

3. ADDITIONALLY, THE PROPOSED VISIT WILL BE ONE OF SEVERAL MAJOR US-MALAYSIAN/US-ASEAN EVENTS IN ROUGHLY THE SAME TIME FRAME, MOST IMPORTANTLY THE OPENING OF FORMAL US-ASEAN CONSULTATIONS IN MANILA SEPT. 7-9, AND PRIME MINISTER HUSSEIN ONN'S VISIT TO THE U.S., (ASIDE FROM POSSIBLE VISITS TO MALAYSIA BY UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS COOPER AND THE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE STRAUSS). THE MALAYSIANS MAY THUS BE CONCERNED NOT TO SHOW TOO HIGH A PROFILE IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AT THIS TIME. NEVERTHELESS, WE SEE NO OBJECTION TO PROPOSED VISIT SUBJECT TO GOM APPROVAL, AND PROPOSE TO LET IT PROCEED WHEN AND IF IT IS APPROVED.

MILLER

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: OCLR, MILI, PDIP, PGOV, MY, (BALDWIN, R B)
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